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Complaint - 1

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

#### AT SEATTLE

GWENDOLYN JENSEN-	) Case No.
WOODARD,	)
	) <b>COMPLAINT</b>
Plaintiff,	)
	)
vs.	)
	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
CREDITORS INTERCHANCE	)
RECEIVABLE MANAGEMENT,	)
LLC,	)
Defendant.	

#### I. NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* (hereinafter "FDCPA") and of the Revised Code of Washington, Chapter 19.16, both of which prohibit debt collectors from engaging in abusive,

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deceptive, and unfair practices. Plaintiff further alleges a claim for invasion of privacy by intrusion, ancillary to Defendant's collection efforts.

#### II. JURISDICTION

2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d).

#### III. PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, Gwendolyn Jensen-Woodard, is a natural person residing in the State of Washington, County of King, City of Renton.
- 4. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), and a "debtor" as defined by RCW § 19.16.100(11).
- 5. At all relevant times herein, Defendant, Creditors Interchange Receivable Management, LLC ("Defendant") was a limited liability company engaged, by use of the mails and telephone, in the business of attempting to collect a "debt" from Plaintiff, as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(5).
- 6. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6), and a "licensee," as defined by RCW § 19.16.100(9).

#### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

7. At various and multiple times prior to the filing of the instant complaint, including within the three-hundred-sixty-five days preceding the filing of this complaint, Defendant contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect an alleged

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outstanding debt. Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA and RCW § 19.16 in

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multiple ways, including but not limited to:

a. Threatening to take actions against Plaintiff that cannot legally be taken or that are not intended to be taken, including threatening to involve a

sheriff in Plaintiff's case, which in turn implied falsely that Plaintiff's non-payment of the debt was a crime, and threatening to make an unauthorized withdrawal of money from Plaintiff's checking account (§

1692e(5)(7));

b. Contacting Plaintiff prior to 8 am, and excusing such call by claiming that the law only cares about the time of the call as it pertains to the local time zone of the caller, which is untrue (§ 1692c(a)(1) & § 1692e(10));

- c. Refusing to provide meaningful identification in calls to Plaintiff, including repeated refusal to give a first name (§ 1692d(6));
- d. Failing to inform Plaintiff in each call that the communication is from a debt collector (§ 1692e(11)); and,
- e. Causing Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly and continuously with intent to harass, abuse or annoy Plaintiff (§ 1692d(5)).
- 8. Defendant's aforementioned activities, set out in paragraph 8, also constitute an intentional intrusion into Plaintiff's private places and into private matters of Plaintiff's life, conducted in a manner highly offensive to a reasonable person. With respect to the setting that was the target of Defendant's intrusions,

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Plaintiff had a subjective expectation of privacy that was objectively reasonable under the circumstances.

9. As a result of Defendant's behavior, detailed above, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer injury to Plaintiff's feelings, personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and emotional distress.

# COUNT I: VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

10. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant for the following:

- A. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA;
- B. Actual damages;
- C. Statutory damages;
- D. Costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and,
- E. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

### COUNT II: VIOLATION OF WASHINGTON COLLECTION AGENCY

## ACT, WHICH IS A PER SE VIOLATION OF THE WASHINGTON

### **CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

11. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.

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#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant for the following:

- A. Actual damages;
- B. Discretionary Treble Damages;
- C. Costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and,
- D. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

#### COUNT III: COMMON LAW INVASION OF PRIVACY BY INTRUSION

12. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant for the following:

- A. Actual damages;
- B. Punitive Damages; and,
- C. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of August, 2008.

s/Jon N. Robbins
Jon N. Robbins
WEISBERG & MEYERS, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff

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